WEEKLY ECONOMIC REVIEW

March 30, 2007

As of January 1, 2007 Alberta's population was 3,435,511 up 3.3% from a year ago. This was by far the highest in Canada and over triple the national increase of 1%. The surge in population was due to strong gains in interprovincial migration.

Over the 2006 calendar year, Alberta hit a record level of net interprovincial migration of 63,300 people. Although Alberta's interprovincial migration was the highest among the provinces in the fourth quarter of 2006, the gain of 11,900 persons was 30% less than the previous fourth quarter.

Canada's economy grew by 0.1% (annualized) in January, slower than market forecasts for a 0.2% increase and December's strong 0.4% gain. Strong gains in the energy sector were partly offset by declines in manufacturing and retail trade.

In the U.S., real GDP was revised up to 2.5% (annualized), from the preliminary estimate of 2.2% in the fourth quarter of 2006. The better-than-expected performance reflected upward revisions in consumer expenditures and exports.

U.S. Corporate profits decreased by $4.9 billion in the fourth quarter, in contrast to an increase of $61.5 billion in the third quarter. In addition, durable good orders increased by only 2.5% in February, recovering less than one third of January's 9.3% decline. The slower than expected increase suggests that first quarter economic growth will remain sluggish.

Cdn Dollar (C¢/US$)

Mar	30, 2007	86.7¢
Mar	23, 2007	86.2¢
2006-07		87.9¢

WTI Oil US$/bbl

Mar	29, 2007	$66.03
Mar	22, 2007	$61.69
2006-07		$65.06

Nymex Natural Gas C$/mcf *

April Contract

Mar	30, 2007	$8.87
Mar	23, 2007	$8.43

*Estimate based on Nymex Futures Market Price

Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke also acknowledged that "uncertainties" surrounding the U.S. economic outlook have "increased somewhat in recent weeks" but the Bank still expects "moderate" growth in the coming quarters. He also cited inflation as its "predominate policy concern," which suggests short-term interest rate stability.

Oil prices reached $66.03 on Friday, the highest level in almost seven months, over worries of Iran's holding of British Navy personnel.

Over the 2006-07 fiscal year, oil prices are estimated to average $65.06 and the Canadian dollar averaged 87.9 cents US.

Economic Indicators Released this Week	Reference Period	Quarter/Previous Quarter (Q/Q)	Quarter/Previous Year's Quarter (Y/Y)	2006
U.S. Real GDP	**4th Quarter**			
(annualized, billions of 2000 dollars)	11,513.0	0.6%	2.5%	3.3%
		Month/Previous Month (M/M)	**Month/Previous Year's Month (Y/Y)**	**Year-to-date[1]**
Canadian Real GDP	**January**			
(annualized, millions of 1997 dollars)	1,103,607	0.1%	2.0%	n/a
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	**February**			
Canada	116.4	0.9%	4.4%	3.7%
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	**February**			
Canada	164.9	2.6%	9.1%	6.0%

Source: Statistics Canada
1Year-to-date 2007 compared to the same period in 2006.